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# WEST MERSEA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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1962



## PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

MRS. E. I. COX

MRS. M. ELLIS

DR. R. D. REID

*Medical Officer of Health:*

E. A. HARGREAVES, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

*Public Health Inspector:*

E. J. BANNER, M.Inst.H.E., A.R.San.I.

REBOW CHAMBERS,

COLCHESTER.

1st August, 1963.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my Annual Report on the Health and Vital Statistics of the District for the year 1962.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient servant,

E. A. HARGREAVES.

# WEST MERSEA URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

## Statistics and Social Circumstances of the Area

Area (acres) ... ..	2,683
Registrar-General's estimate of resident population ...	3,110
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1962) according to Rate Book ... ..	1,336
Rateable Value ... ..	£38,478
Sum represented by a penny rate ... ..	£154

## SOCIAL CONDITIONS

The district is the western portion of Mersea Island which lies between the estuaries of the rivers Blackwater and Colne. The nearest town is Colchester, situated about 9½ miles to the north.

As a summer health resort, it attracts a large number of holiday makers, many of whom enjoy some excellent sailing.

The main industries are agriculture, fishing, building and yacht building, etc.

## EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR

	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Live Births: All ... ..	20	28	48
Legitimate ... ..	19	26	45
Illegitimate ... ..	1	2	3
Birth rate per 1,000 estimated resident population: ...			15.4
Comparability Factor: ... ..			1.24
Corrected birth rate: ... ..			19.1
England and Wales: ... ..			18
Still births: All ... ..	2	0	2
Legitimate ... ..	2	0	2
Illegitimate ... ..	0	0	0
Stillbirth rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births: ...			40.0
England and Wales: ... ..			18.1
	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Total births ... ..			50
Infant deaths: All ... ..	0	1	1
Legitimate ... ..	0	1	1
Illegitimate ... ..	0	0	0
In 1st Week: All ... ..	0	1	1
Infant Mortality rate per 1,000 births ... ..			20.8
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births ...			22.2
Infant mortality rate, England and Wales ... ..			20.7
Neonatal mortality rate per 1,000 live births ... ..			20.8
Early neonatal mortality rate (1st week) per 1,000 related births ... ..			20.8
Perinatal mortality rate (still births plus deaths during 1st week per 1,000 total live and still births ...			60
Percentage of illegitimate live births ... ..			6.3%
Maternal deaths ... ..			0

Maternal mortality rate	...	...	...	...	0
			<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Deaths:	...	...	27	24	51
Death rate per 1,000 estimated resident population	...	...	...	...	16.4
Corrected death rate:	...	...	...	...	11.5
England and Wales:	...	...	...	...	11.9
Comparability factor:	...	...	...	...	.7

**Deaths in various age groups (local statistics)**

<i>Age</i>	<i>No. of Deaths</i>
0- 1 year	1
1- 2 years	0
2- 5 years	0
5-15 years	0
15-25 years	0
25-35 years	0
35-45 years	0
45-55 years	4
55-65 years	10
65-75 years	17
75 years and over	18

**CAUSES OF DEATH**

	<i>M.</i>	<i>F.</i>	<i>Total</i>
Malignant neoplasm of stomach	1	0	1
Malignant neoplasm of lung and bronchus	2	0	2
Malignant neoplasm of uterus	0	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	2	1	3
Tuberculosis, respiratory	0	1	1
Diabetes	0	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system	3	4	7
Coronary disease, angina	7	4	11
Hypertension with heart disease	0	1	1
Other heart diseases	5	3	8
Other circulatory disease	0	2	2
Pneumonia	1	1	2
Bronchitis	0	1	1
Other diseases of respiratory system	0	1	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	1	0	1
Nephritis and nephrosis	1	0	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	4	2	6
All other accidents	0	1	1
	—	—	—
	27	24	51
	—	—	—

23 people died in West Mersea.

28 people died out of the area (all in various Institutions).

**National Assistance Acts, 1948-51**

No action was taken under these Acts.



## GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA

### Public Health Officers of the Local Authority

*Medical Officer of Health*—E. A. Hargreaves, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. He is employed part-time: he devotes the remainder of his time to two neighbouring authorities and to the County Council.

*Public Health Inspector*—E. J. Banner, M.Inst.H.E., A.R.San.I. He is also employed as Surveyor to the Council.

### Laboratory Facilities

The Laboratories available are situated at:

The Essex County Hospital, Colchester.

The Public Health Laboratory, Woodbridge Road, Ipswich.

The Counties Laboratory, 66 Victoria Street, London, S.W.1.

### Ambulance

Non-emergency ambulance calls are not accepted from the general public.

To obtain an ambulance in an emergency it is merely necessary to lift the telephone receiver and ask for an ambulance. If there is a dialling system in operation dial "999" or "O" or "O1" and ask for an ambulance.

### Health Services provided by the Essex County Council

Ante-natal and post-natal clinics.

Midwives.

Nursing in the home.

Health visiting.

Mental welfare.

Home helps.

Vaccination and diphtheria immunisation.

Provision of nursing equipment and apparatus.

School health service.

Ante-natal and post-natal clinics are held at the Health Services Clinic, Culver Street, Colchester, at 2.30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Infant Welfare Clinics are held at the Church Hall on the second and fourth Wednesdays in each month at 2.15 p.m.

Welfare foods are obtainable from:

Mersea Stores, Yorick Road, West Mersea.

Central Stores, Barfield Road, West Mersea.

Assistance from the Home Help Service is obtained by communicating with the Area Organiser, Area Office, Trinity Street, Colchester (Telephone: Colchester 6251, Ext. 3).

## Health Services provided by the Regional Hospital Board

*Tuberculosis.*—The Chest Clinic is situated at St. Mary's Hospital, Colchester, and is open daily.

*V.D.*—Sessions held at the Essex County Hospital on Mondays, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. for males and females, and Fridays, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. for males and females.

## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### W A T E R

The water supplies in the district have been under the control of the newly formed Colchester & District Water Board since the 1st April, 1961.

I am informed by the Water Board that the number of bacteriological samples submitted for analysis during the year was four per month and no coliform organisms were detected in any sample.

### A typical Chemical Analysis in Parts per Million

*Appearance.*—Bright with few particles.

<i>Colour</i> ... ..	Nil	<i>Turbidity, less than</i>	3
<i>pH</i> ... ..	8.3	<i>Odour</i> ... ..	Nil
<i>Electric Conductivity</i>	3200	<i>Free Carbon Dioxide</i>	Absent
<i>Chlorine present as</i>		<i>Dissolved Solids dried</i>	
<i>Chloride</i> ... ..	740	<i>at 180° C.</i> ...	2130
<i>Hardness: Total</i> ...	80	<i>Alkalinity as Calcium</i>	
<i>Carbonate</i> ...	80	<i>Carbonate</i> ...	380
<i>Non-carbonate</i>	0	<i>Nitrite Nitrogen approx.</i>	0.1
<i>Nitrate Nitrogen</i> ...	0.0	<i>Oxygen Absorbed</i> ...	0.35
<i>Ammonical Nitrogen</i>	0.37	<i>Residual Chlorine</i> ...	0.45
<i>Albuminoid Nitrogen</i>	0.017	<i>Fluoride</i> ... ..	5.8
<i>Metals, Iron</i> ...	0.06		
<i>Zinc, Copper and</i>			
<i>Lead</i> ... ..	Absent		

### Premises connected to water mains

The number of houses supplied from water mains is ...	1,290
The number of houses supplied from standpipes (with an approximate population of 60) ... ..	49
The number of houses connected to water mains during the year was ... ..	42

## PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT

### Inspections

Houses inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	75
Inspections under Public Health Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Butcher's shops inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	8
Fried Fish shops inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Ice Cream stores inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Bakehouses inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Factory Acts	...	...	...	...	...	...	14
Movable Dwellings and Caravan sites inspected	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	...	5

### Notices

Statutory Notices served, Public Health Acts	..	...	...	...	...	Nil
Informal Notices served, Public Health Acts	..	...	...	...	...	9
Informal Notices complied with	...	...	...	...	...	7
Demolition Orders issued	...	...	...	...	...	2
Closing Orders issued	...	...	...	...	...	Nil

## SEWAGE DISPOSAL

Forty-two houses were connected to sewers during the year.

## HOUSING

Most of the houses in this district are in a good state of repair and housing does not present the same problem as experienced in other districts.

One cottage in Waldegraves Lane was reconstructed after informal action by the Council and two cottages in this road were reconstructed after the Council accepted undertakings under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957.

The demolition of two cottages in Coast Road was proceeding at the end of the year.

Work on the reconstruction of two cottages in Workhouse Lane which were the subject of an undertaking under Section 16 of the Housing Act, 1957, had not commenced by the end of the year due to the need of financial aid by the owners.

Thirty-eight houses were completed by private enterprise, four by the Council.

## REFUSE DISPOSAL

Refuse is disposed of at the Colchester Borough's controlled tip at Stanway.



## NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Measles ... .. 1

## MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

There are no licensed slaughterhouses in the district, and requirements are adequately met by slaughterhouses in Colchester.

The number of food premises registered under Section 14 of the Food and Drugs Act are:—

Meat products ... ..	3
Ice Cream premises ... ..	25 (Sale only)

## MOSQUITO NUISANCE

Known breeding places of mosquitoes were treated at intervals throughout the breeding season.

## FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948

Routine inspection of factories is made at suitable intervals. The attention of the management is drawn to any defects which are observed.

<i>Premises</i>	<i>No. on Register</i>	<i>No. of Inspections</i>
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	11	14
Cases in which defects were found ...	Nil	

## OUTWORK

<i>Number of outworkers in August List required by Section 110 (i) (c)</i>	<i>Irregularities Sect. 110</i>	<i>Irregularities Sect. 111</i>
3	Nil	Nil

